

TRAVIS COUNTY FEE GUIDELINES

FOR APPOINTED COUNSEL IN MISDEMEANOR CRIMINAL CASES

EFFECTIVE APRIL 8, 2022 FOR SERVICES RENDERED ON OR AFTER THAT DATE

The goal of these payment guidelines is to assure quality representation for indigent persons charged with misdemeanor crimes in Travis County. Those cases appropriate for trial should be tried and those appropriate for plea should be pled.

The Program Administrator reserves the right to deviate from these guidelines in particular cases where the amount or quality or work performed is substantially above or below the norm.

Court appointed attorneys remain attorneys of record until final disposition of their cases unless a motion to withdraw or to substitute counsel is granted.

PAYMENT GUIDELINES

Jail Release Work	\$50.00 per hour
Attorney Released	\$50.00 per case
Jail Reduction Docket:	
Plea and Sentence (1 defendant/1 case) ¹	\$175.00 per case
Discover and Dismissal (1 defendant/1 case) ¹	\$175.00 per case
Probation Revocation (continued or revoked) ¹	\$175.00 per case
Non-Jail Reduction Docket:	
Plea and Sentence (1 defendant/1 case) ¹	\$275.00 per case
Discovery and Dismissal (1 defendant/1 case) ¹	\$275.00 per case
Probation Revocation (continued or revoked) ¹	\$275.00 per case
Misdemeanor 12.45's	\$75.00 per case
Pretrial (including preparation)	\$200 per case
Trial Before the Court – Full Day (including discovery and preparation)	\$500 per day
Trial Before the Court – Half Day (including discovery and preparation)	\$250 per half day
Jury trial – Full Day (including discovery and preparation)	\$700 per day
Jury trial – Half Day (including discovery and preparation)	\$350 per half day
Uncontested Competency	\$100 per case
Appeals	\$1,000 per Appeal

¹\$75 for each additional case

EXPENSES

Court appointed counsel will be compensated for all necessary and reasonable expenses: approved by the Program Administrator prior to the expense being incurred.

REQUESTS FOR PAYMENTS

Request-for-payment forms shall be submitted at the time the case is disposed of except for trials. Requests for payment after trials should be submitted within 30 days of the conclusion of the case. Failure to comply may result in suspension from the court appointment list.

Payment for all of a defendant(s) cases should be requested on one form.

Payment for expenses such as investigators and expert witnesses should be requested on a separate form.

COMPENSATION THROUGH FELONY HOURLY PROGRAM

For any assignment in which compensation is authorized by the TIDC Hourly Compensation grant all compensation for misdemeanors will be included in a single combined voucher and are subject the rate determined by the Travis County Fee Guidelines For Appointed Counsel in Felony Criminal Cases and the policies and procedures of the Travis County District Courts and the Program Administrator.

COMPENSATION FOR REPRESENTATION AT MAGISTRATION

The Program Administrator shall implement in conjunction with the Travis County Public Defender a pilot of representation by defense counsel at first appearance (magistration) as outlined in an evaluation project and grant awarded by the Texas A&M University Public Policy Research Institute and Arnold Ventures to determine the effectiveness of counsel at first appearances in Travis County approved by the Travis County Commissioners Court. Compensation for assigned counsel will range from \$75 per hour to \$150 per hour based on the day and time of the shift and include additional compensation for shifts occurring on holidays recognized by Travis County. Program manager shall implement a schedule for assigned counsel, a schedule of approved compensation, and review and authorize payment according to the policies and procedures adopted by the Program Administrator.

CAVEAT

In an unusual case, the considerations set forth in Texas Rules of Professional Conduct Rule 1.04(b) may dictate a fee that is less than or more than the one established by these guidelines. In such event, an hourly rate of \$40 to \$60 may be used in calculating requested fees. Fees will be dependent upon the complexity of the case and the experience and ability of the appointed counsel. Claims for payment should reflect time expended to the nearest 1/10th of an hour.

Approved and Ordered this 8th day of April, 2022.

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John Lipscombe

Judge, County Court at Law #3

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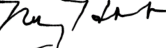


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Dimple Malhotra

Judge, County Court at Law #4

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Nancy Hohengarten

Judge, County Court at Law #5

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Brandy Mueller

Judge, County Court at Law #6

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Elisabeth Earle

Judge, County Court at Law #7

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Carlos Barrera

Judge, County Court at Law #8

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Kim Williams

Judge, County Court at Law #9